

- a) reaction of a rapamycin having an activated coupling group with an immunogenic protein to produce an immunogenic conjugate,
- b) administration of said immunogenic conjugate to an appropriate animal species to effect immunogenic challenge and recovery of antibody-producing cells sensitized to said conjugate,
- c) immortalization of said antibody-producing cells, and
- d) recovery of monoclonal antibody from a selected immortalized cell line thus established.

19. (new) A monoclonal antibody of claim 15 wherein the rapamycin is (i) rapamycin; or (ii) a 40-O-alkylated rapamycin, preferably wherein the 40-O-alkyl substituent is selected from hydroxyalkyl, hydroxyalkoxyalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, or aminoalkyl.

20. (new) A monoclonal antibody of claim 19 wherein the rapamycin is selected from

- i) 40-O-(2-hydroxyethyl)-rapamycin,
- ii) 40-O-(3-hydroxypropyl)-rapamycin,
- iii) 40-O-[2-(2-hydroxy)ethoxy]ethyl-rapamycin, and
- iv) 40-O-(2-acetarninoethyl)-rapamycin).

21. (new) A monoclonal antibody of claim 15 capable of distinguishing between (i) rapamycin; and (ii) a 40-O-alkylated rapamycin, preferably wherein the 40-O-alkyl substituent is selected from hydroxyalkyl, hydroxyalkoxyalkyl, acylaminoalkyl, or aminoalkyl.

22. (new) An immunogenic conjugate comprising a rapamycin portion and a protein portion.

23. (new) An immunogenic conjugate of claim 22 which is produced by reacting a protein with a rapamycin derivative bearing an activated coupling group.

24. (new) An immunogenic conjugate of claim 23 wherein the rapamycin derivative is

- i) 40-O-succinimidooxysuccinyl-rapamycin, p.17
- ii) 28-O-succinimidooxysuccinyl-rapamycin, or p.16
- iii) 28-O-(succinimidooxysuccinyl)-40-O-(2-hydroxyethyl)-rapamycin. p.15

25. (new) A rapamycin having an activated coupling group.

26. (new) A rapamycin of claim 25 selected from